

Commonwealth of Massachusetts



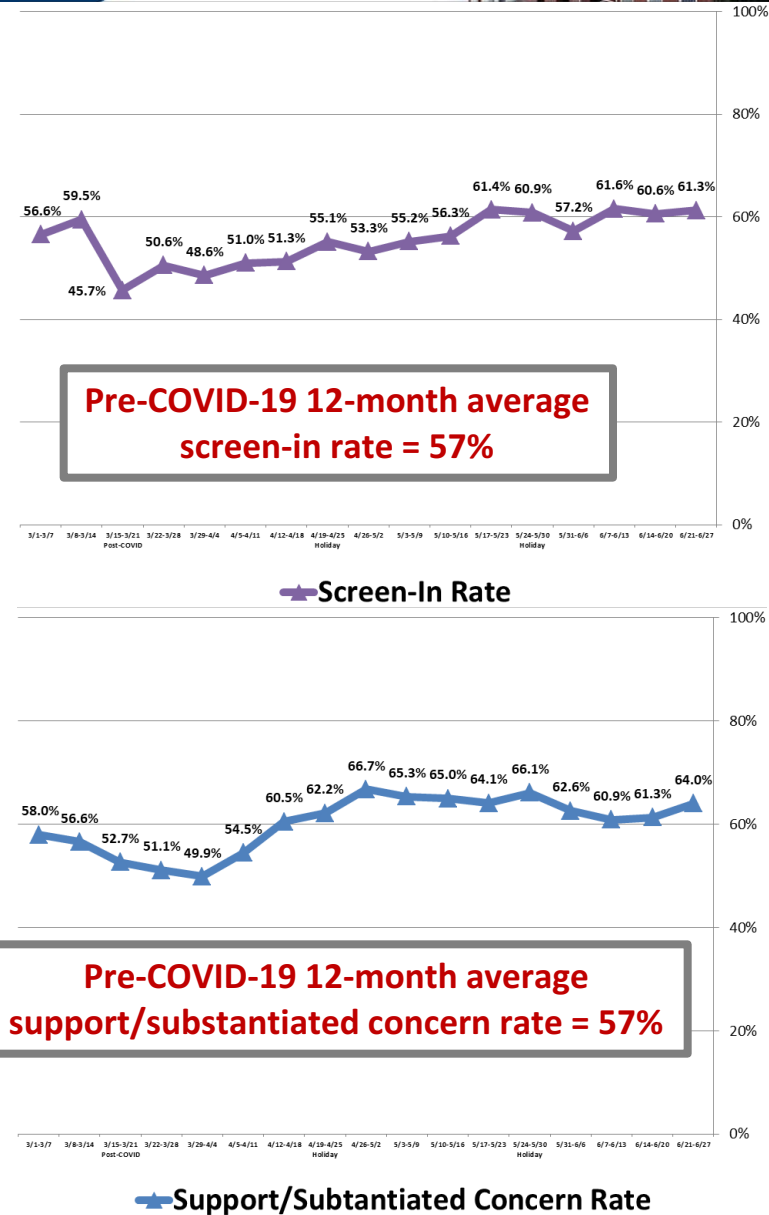
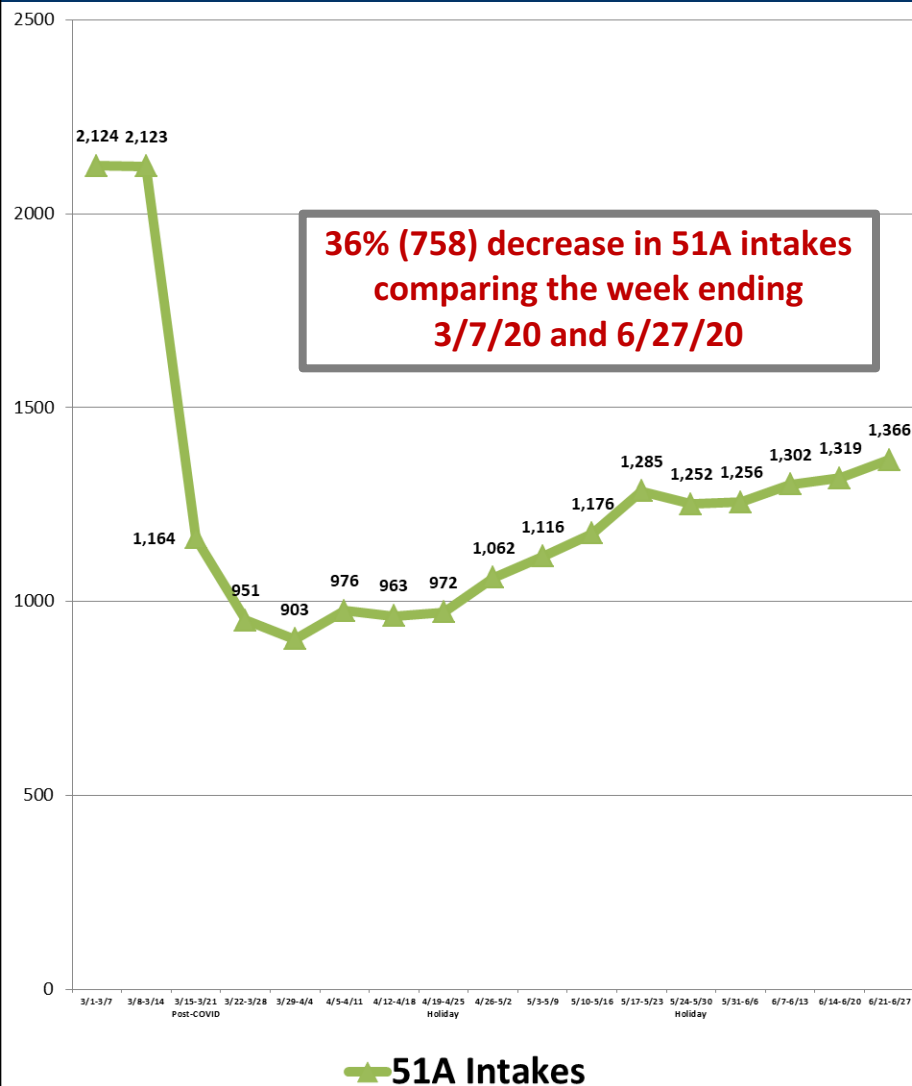
Department of Children and Families – Agency Update

June 30, 2020



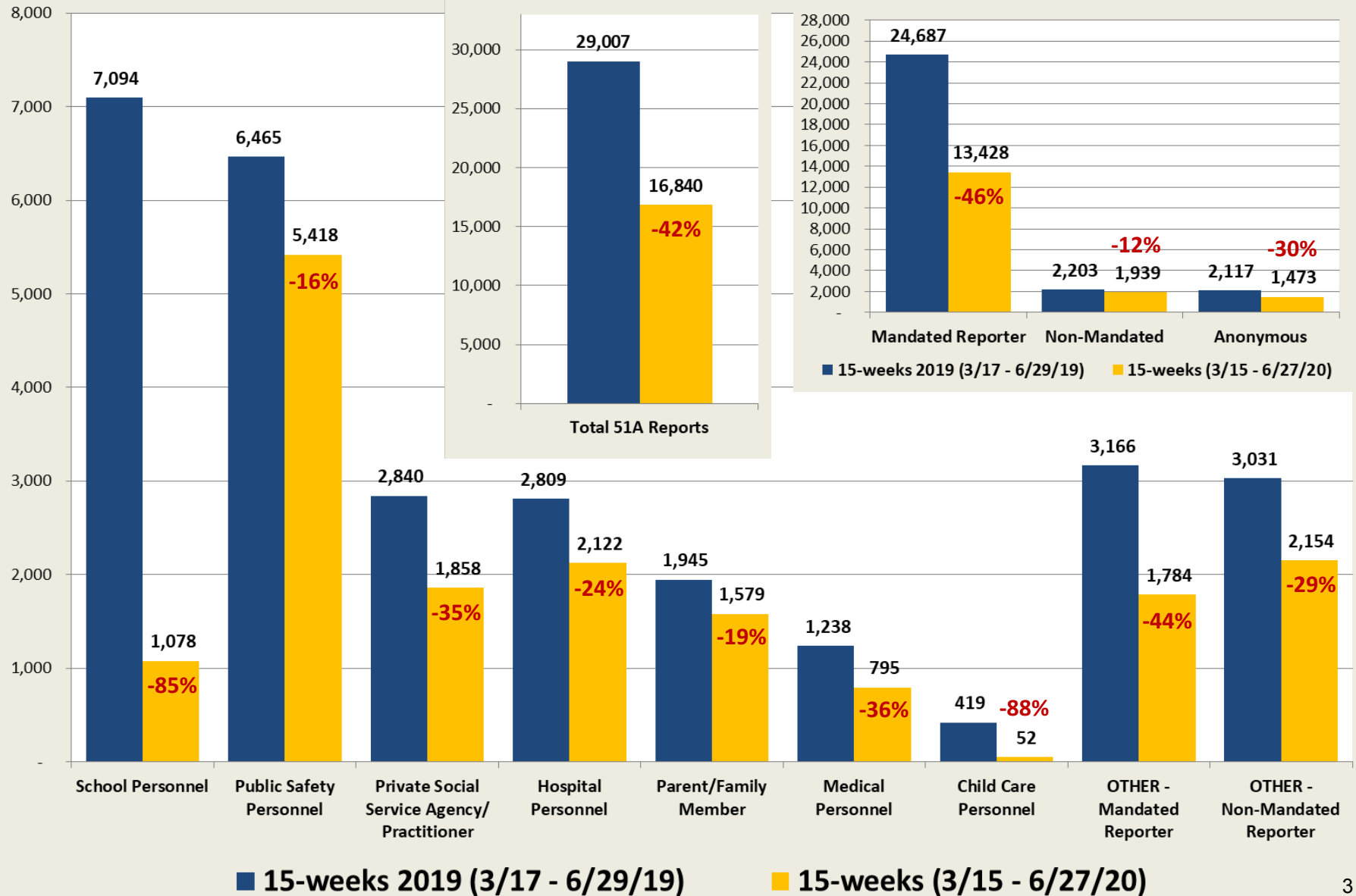
51A Intakes Pre vs Post COVID-19

03/01/2020 to 06/27/2020





51As have decreased by 42%, especially from mandated reporters



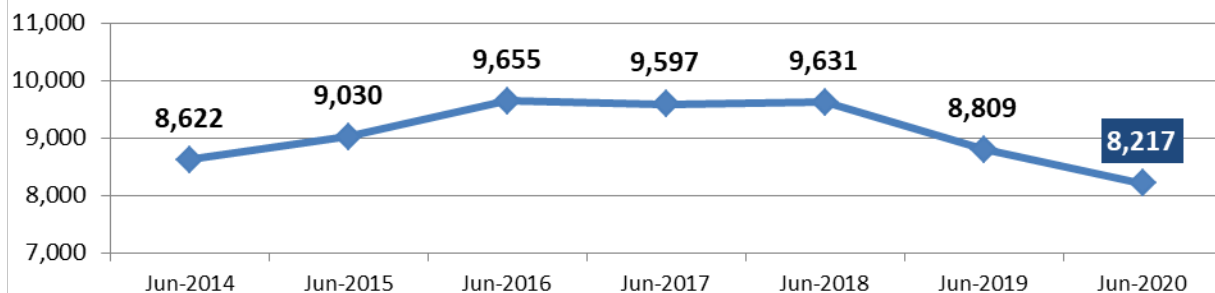


Children (0-17) in DCF Placement

All Placement Types



Children (0-17) in Placement



NOTE: These counts do not include children in non-referral locations (e.g., hospital, other state agency).

- The number of children in DCF placement at year-end decreased by 9% (-822) from FY18-19, and by 7% (-592) from FY19-20.

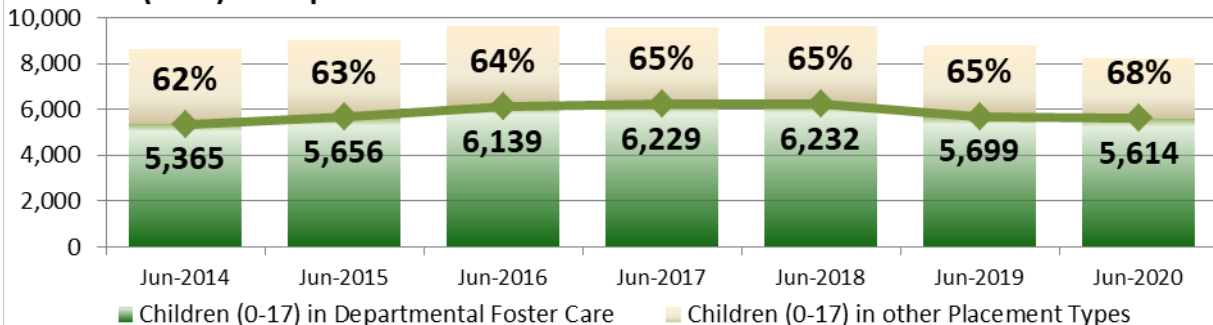


Children in DCF Placement

Departmental FC: Non-Kinship and Kin/Child Specific

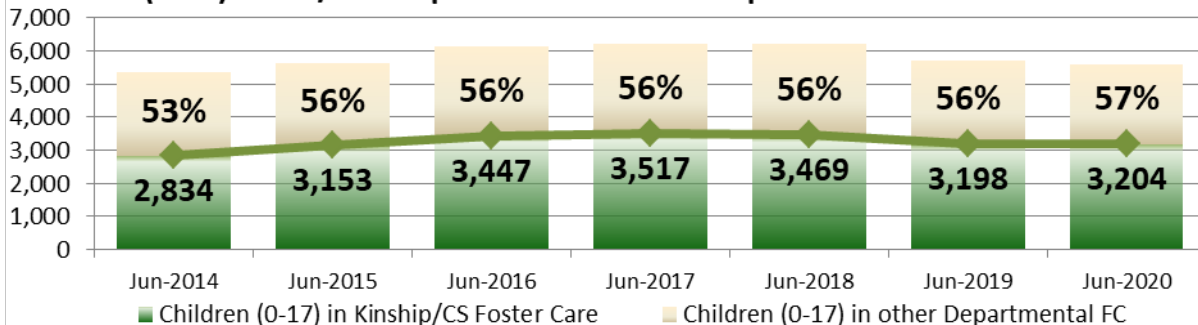


Children (0-17) in Departmental FC as a % of All Placements



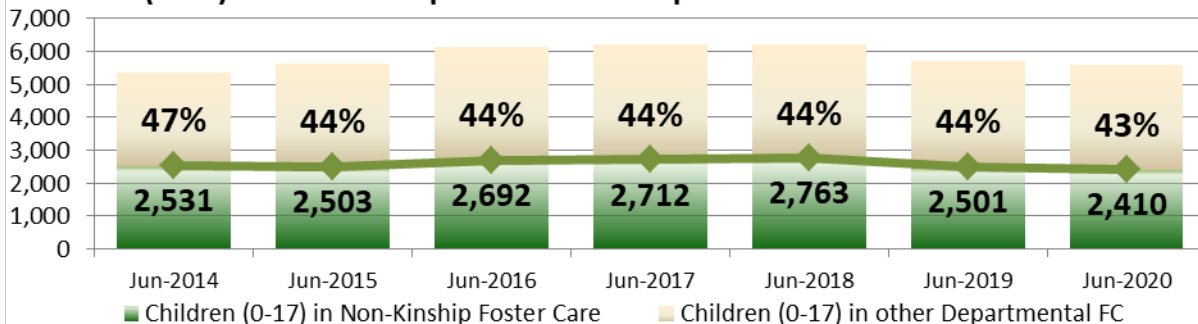
- As of 06/30/2020, there were 5,614 children placed in a family setting (i.e., Departmental Foster Care).
- While the overall number of children in DCF placement has decreased, the proportion placed in Departmental Foster Care (DFC) has increased to 68%.

Children (0-17) in Kin/Child Specific FC as a % of Departmental FC



- As of 06/30/2020, there were 3,204 children placed in a Kinship/Child Specific DFC family setting.
- Recognizing that children/youth experience fewer placement disruptions and achieve greater well-being when placed with kin, the Department has increased the proportion of children placed with kin to 57% of all DFC.

Children (0-17) in Non-Kinship FC as a % of Departmental FC



- As of 06/30/2020, there were 2,410 children placed in a Non-Kinship DFC family setting.
- As a proportion of children placed in DFC, 43% are living in a non-kin family setting.

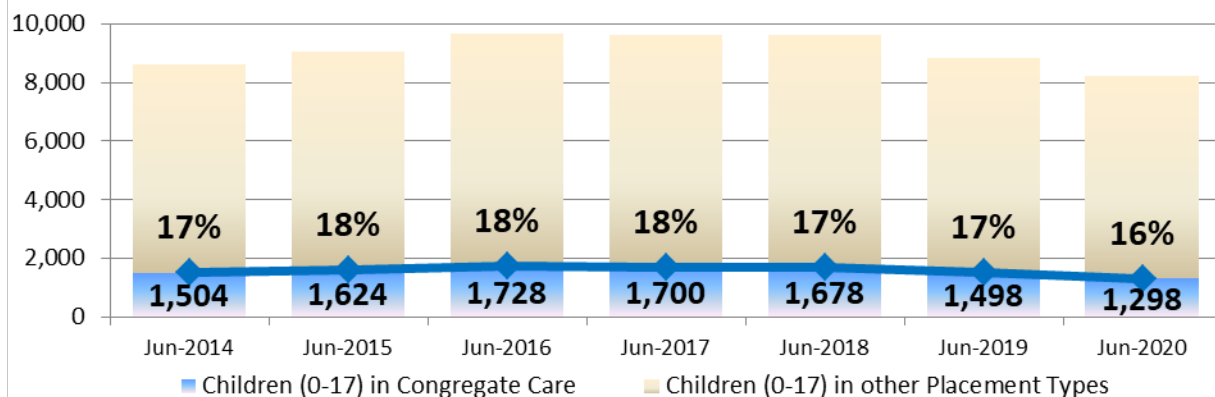


Children in DCF Placement

Congregate Care and Comprehensive Foster Care

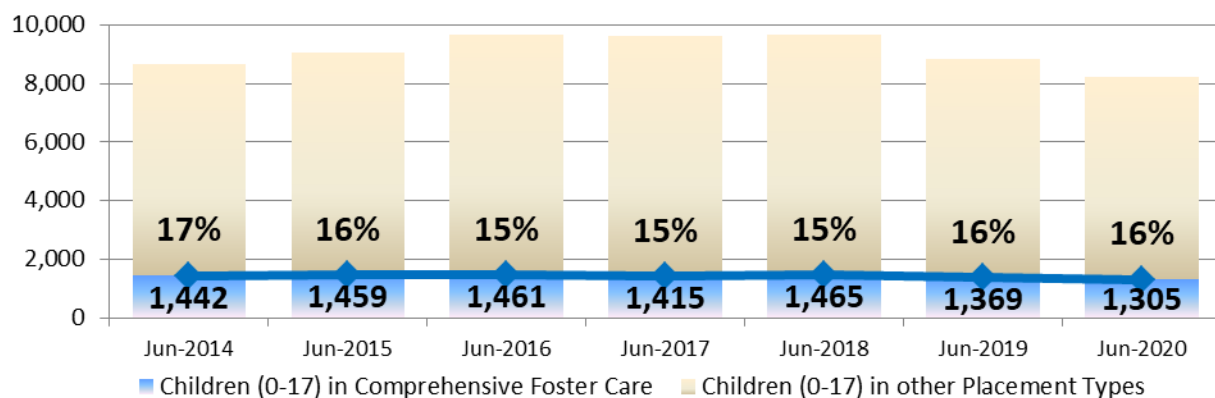


Children (0-17) in Congregate Care as a % of All Placements



- As of 06/30/2020, there were 1,298 children placed in Congregate Care.
- Congregate Care represents 16% of all placement utilization.

Children (0-17) in Comprehensive FC as a % of All Placements



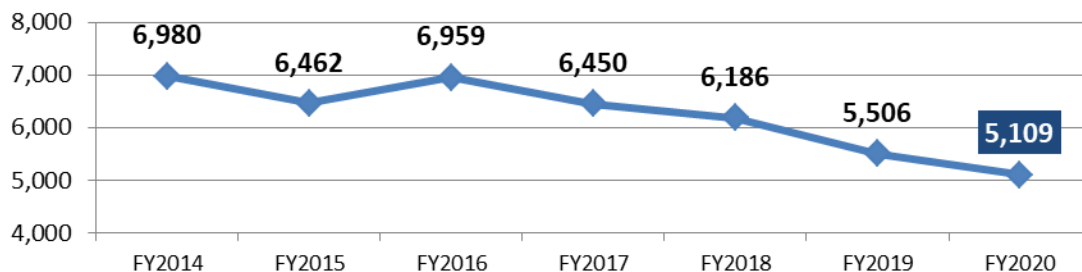
- As of 06/30/2020, there were 1,305 children placed in Comprehensive Foster Care.
- Comprehensive Foster Care represents 16% of all placement utilization.

- *These contracted, intensive foster care services are generally provided for children/youth for whom a traditional foster care environment is not suitable or sufficiently supportive.*



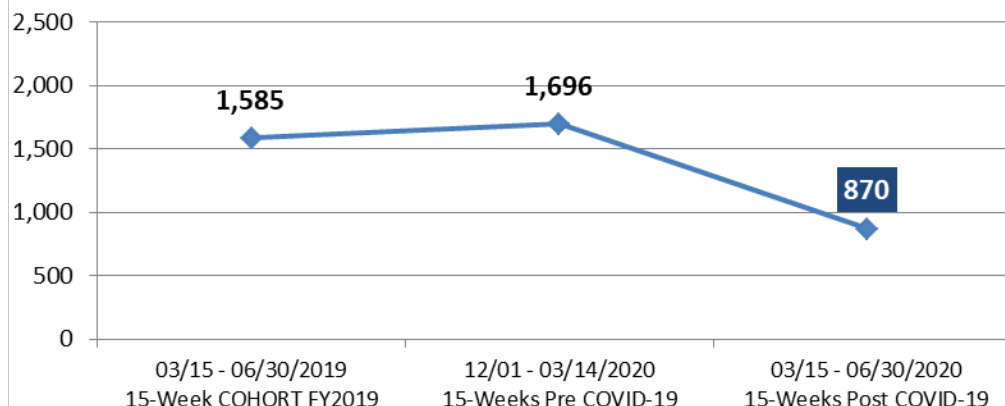
Home Removal Episodes

Home Removal Episodes (HREs)



- Home Removal Episodes (HREs) decreased by 27% (-1,871) between FY14 & FY20.

Home Removal Episodes (HREs):
Pre vs. Post COVID-19



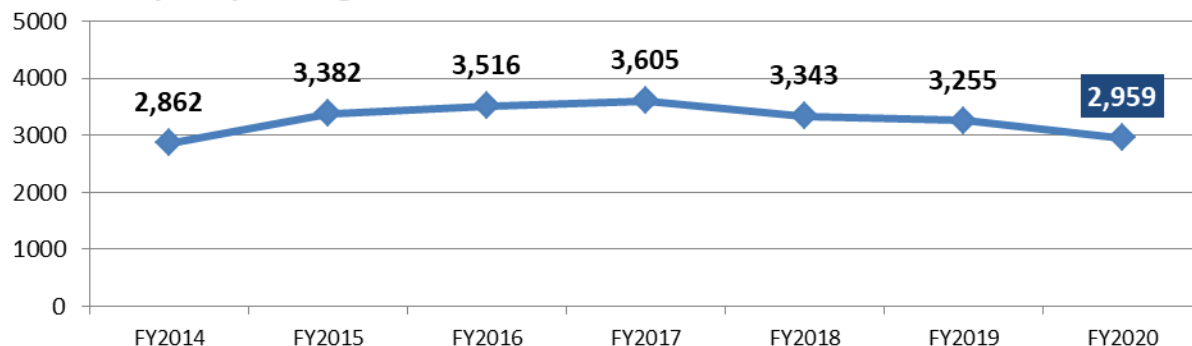
- The impact of COVID-19 on HREs is evident when comparing year-over-year HRE counts for comparable 15-week periods.
- Accounting for seasonal variation, HREs are down 45% (-715) compared to an equivalent 15-week period year-over-year.
- HREs are down 49% (-826) compared to the 15-week period immediately preceding the COVID-19 cohort.



Children Exiting Care to Reunification

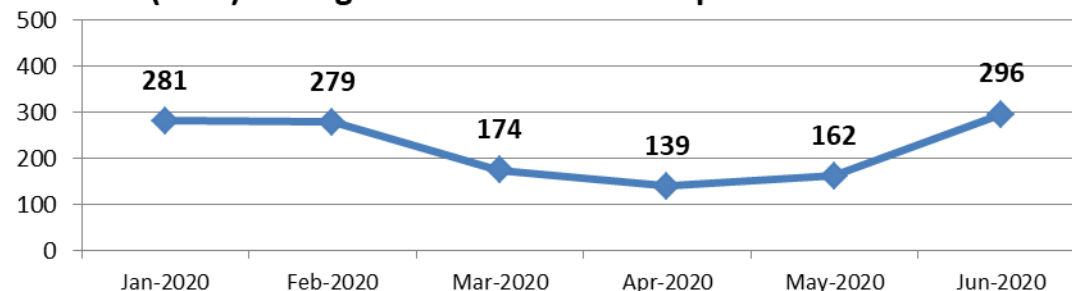


Children (0-17) Exiting Care to Reunification



- Tracking with a 14% (-1,380) decrease in placed children since FY17, the number of children exiting placement to reunification has been trending downward.
- Notwithstanding, the relative proportion of reunifications as a percent of placed children has remained fairly unchanged.

Children (0-17) Exiting Care to Reunification per Month



- These reunification counts are preliminary and may be adjusted upward as the dataset ages.

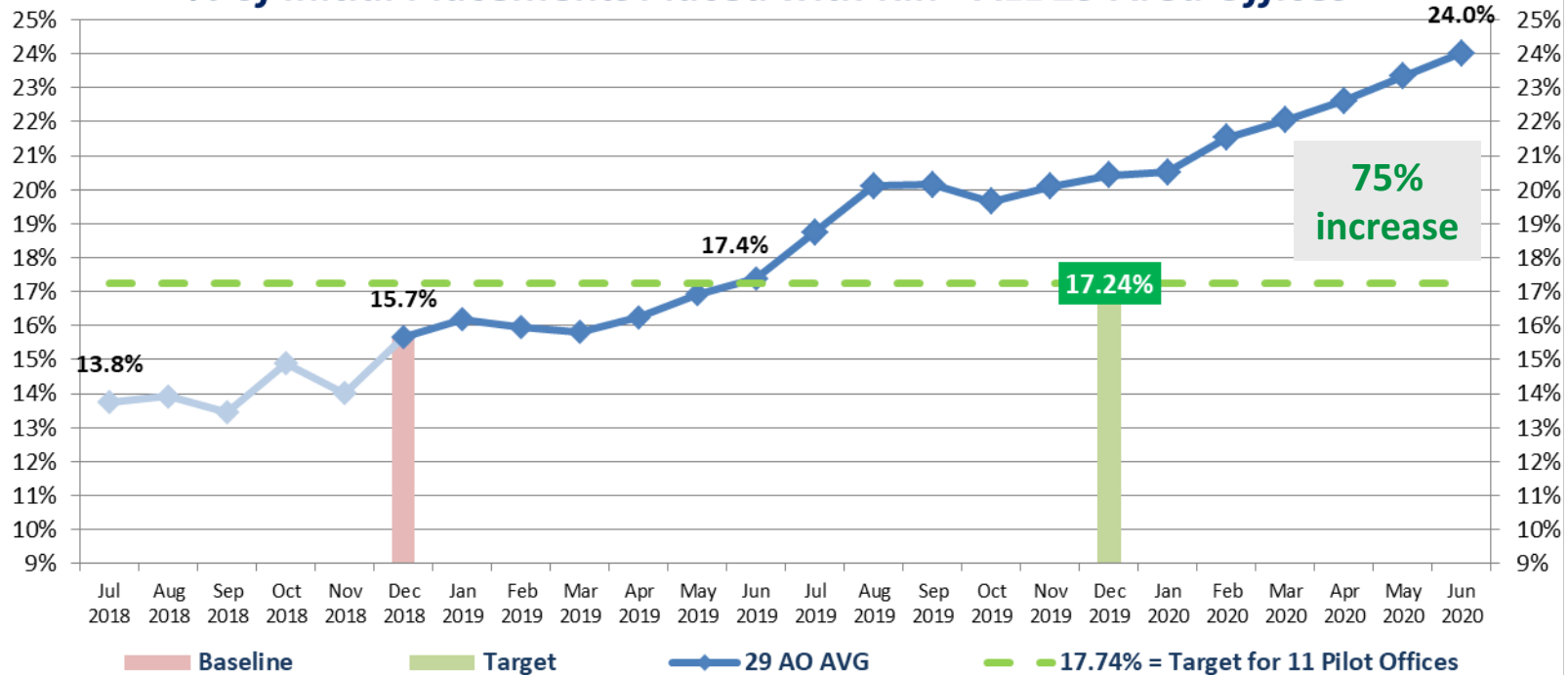
- On average, there were 271 reunification per month in FY19.
- Likely reflecting the impact of COVID-19—compared to the FY19 average of 271—reunifications were down 36% (-97) in Mar-2020, 49% (-132) in Apr-2020, and 40% (-109) in May-2020.
- By Jun-2020, reunifications were up 9% (25) compared to FY19.



Initial Placement with Kin Kin-First



% of Initial Placements Placed with Kin - ALL 29 Area Offices



- Extending the Kin-First metric across all 29 area offices, a 75% increase in kin as the initial placement was evidenced in FY19 and into FY20.
- While no statewide target was established, by Jun-2019 statewide performance exceeded the 17.24% target established for the 11 Pilot Offices.
- NOTE: kin placements account for 40% of ALL out-of-home placements; and 58% of all Departmental Foster Care placements.

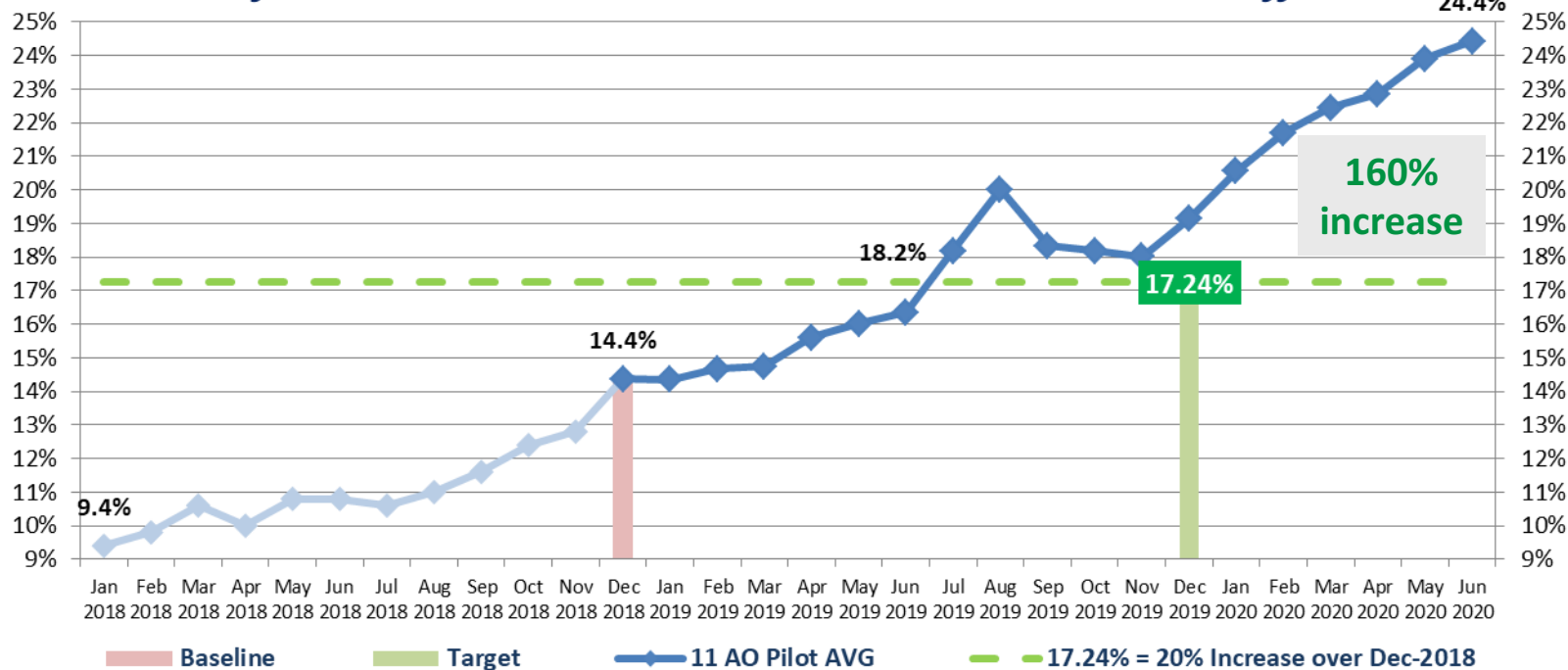


Initial Placement with Kin

Kin-First Pilot



% of Initial Placements Placed with Kin - 11 Pilot Area Offices





Case Closing Trend Pre vs Post COVID-19 Accounting for Seasonality



CASE CLOSING TREND

Pre vs Post COVID-19

(15 week intervals)

